

A NEW SPECIES OF *ANULOCAULIS*
(NYCTAGINACEAE) FROM SOUTHERN
COAHUILA, MEXICO

BILLIE L. TURNER

Department of Botany
University of Texas
Austin, TX 78713 U.S.A.

ABSTRACT

A new species of *Anulocaulis*, *A. hintoniorum* B.L. Turner, is described and illustrated from near Parras, Coahuila. It is related to *A. eriosolenus* but is amply distinct by a number of characters including larger flowers and smooth ellipsoid anthocarps.

KEY WORDS: Nyctaginaceae, *Anulocaulis*, Mexico.

Routine identification of Mexican plants has revealed the following novelty. Well into my independently initiated investigation of the species of *Anulocaulis*, Spellenberg's (1993) excellent taxonomic study of the genus appeared, making easier the study rendered here. Spellenberg recognized 5 species, all of them confined to arid regions of the southwestern U.S.A. and northern Mexico. The description here of *A. hintoniorum* adds a sixth well defined species to the genus.

***Anulocaulis hintoniorum* B.L. Turner, sp. nov. (Fig. 1)**

Anulocaulis eriosoleno (A. Gray) Standley similis sed perianthiis 15–16 mm longis (vs 8–9 mm) et anthocarpis 5–6 mm longis ellipsoideis laevibusque (vs 2.6–3.8 mm longis turbinatis plus minusve 5-angulatisque) differt.

Perennial viscid herbs 40–60 cm high. Roots woody at top with yesteryear's stubby stem-bases persistent, the tough lignescent portion extending for 12–24 cm below the ground surface (pers. comm. from collectors). Stems mostly single from a woody crown, the lower portion tan, minutely hispidulous to glabrate, the upper portions with internodes having a prominent viscid-red exudate encircling the stem. Leaves 2–5 pairs, disposed for 2–16 cm along the base of stem, mostly 6–12 cm long, 4–8 cm wide; petioles 1–4 cm long, hispidulous; blades thick, broadly ovate to subcordate, semisucculent or leathery, pinnately nervate, the lower surfaces with raised hispidulous red veins, the margins erose-crenulate. Inflorescence divaricately paniculate, occupying 2/3 or more of the plant, the nodes bracteate with broadly ovate, ciliate bracts 2–4 mm long, the internodes red-viscous like the stems, otherwise glabrous or nearly so. Flowers bounded beneath by 3–4 free scarious ovate bracts 2–3 mm long. Perianth 15–16 mm long, 5-lobed; tube ca 7 mm long, purplish, abruptly flaring into a purple

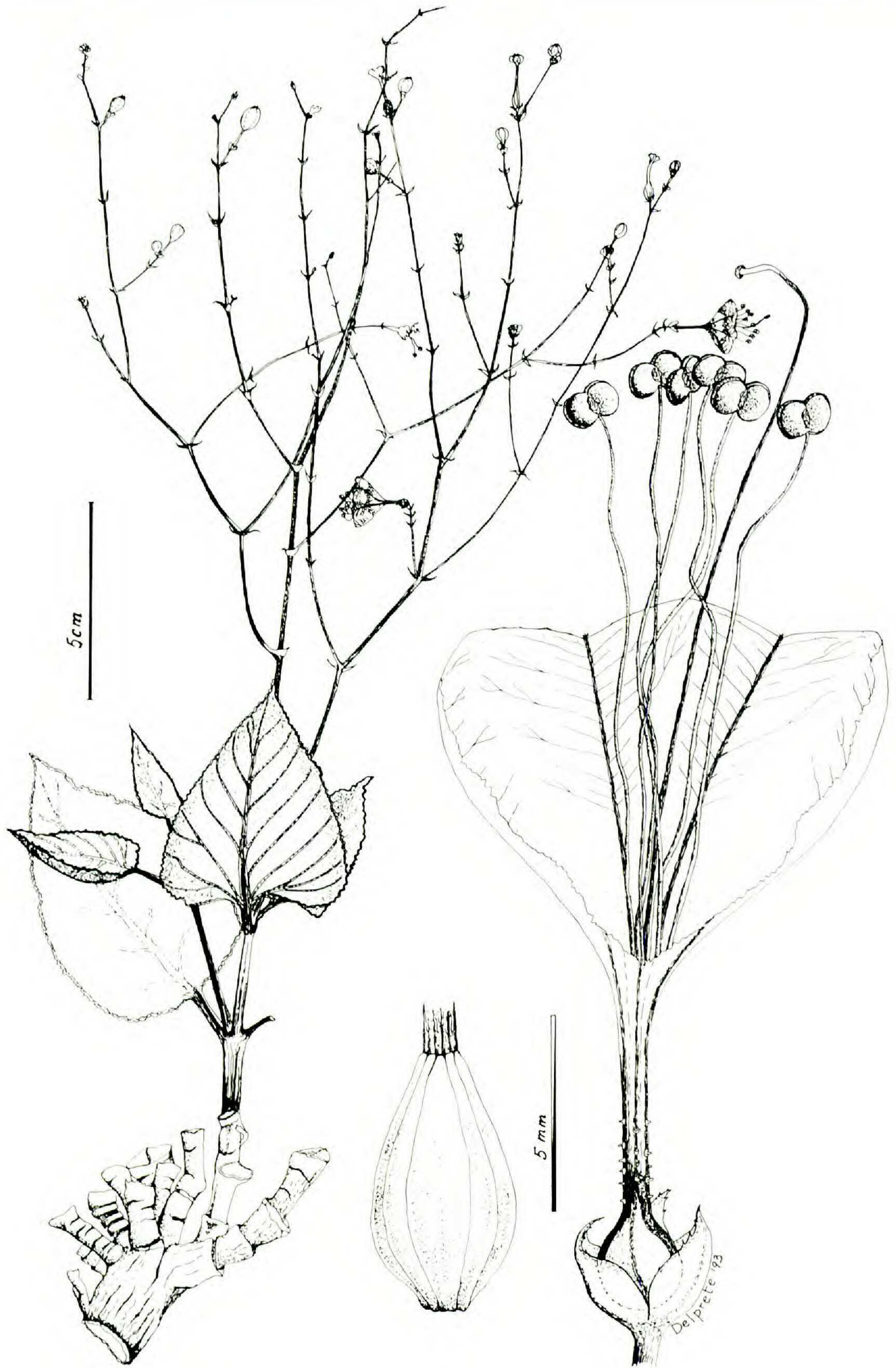


FIG. 1. *Anulocaulis hintoniorum*, from holotype.

funnelform throat 7–8 mm long, 10–15 mm across, the outer portions of the throat near apices of the lobes minutely glandular-pubescent. Stamens 5–7, exerted 3–5 mm; filaments purple, the anthers red, ca 1 mm high, 1.5 mm wide. Styles purplish, the stigma peltate. Anthocarps ellipsoid or broadly fusiform, smooth, glabrous, 5–6 mm long, ca 3.5 mm wide, weakly 10-striate, if at all.

TYPE: MEXICO. COAHUILA: Mpio. Parras, ca 14 km S of Parras, ca 25° 20'N, 102° 17'S, 1440 m, orange shale outcrops, 11 Sep 1993, *G.B. Hinton et al.* 23193 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!; ISOTYPES: MEXU!, NMC!, UC!).

Additional specimens examined: MEXICO. COAHUILA: All from same location as type material, *G.B. Hinton et al.* 22693, (TEX); immediately N of Sierra Prieta, W end of exposed ridge of shale and siltstone in area of massive outcrop ca 2.5 mi W of main road, 20 Sep 1993, *G. Nesom* 7692, with M. Mayfield and G.S. Hinton (ANSM, MEXU, NMC, TEX).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I am grateful to Guy Nesom for the Latin diagnosis and to him and T.P. Ramamoorthy for reviewing the manuscript. Piero Delprete provided the illustration.

REFERENCES

- SPELLENBERG, R. 1993. Taxonomy of *Anulocaulis* (Nyctaginaceae). *Sida* 15:375–389.